

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the Office Action dated October 8, 2002, and the references cited therein. Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the application.

Claims 1-3, 6-16, and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,151,643, Cheng, already of record. In setting forth the rejection, the Examiner has admitted that Cheng does not teach event listener. Instead the Examiner has alleged that the Cheng teaching of a server computer that uses an activity log to record activities (Cheng, column 20, lines 61-67) is analogous to the event listener process as claimed. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's analogy in light of the amendments to the claims. In the present invention, in an information bus instance, data producer members and data consumer members interact through announcement and notifications that are detected by event listeners associated with the instance of the information bus and with the members thereto. Claims 1, 9, and 14 have been amended to recite the nature of the bus events to which an event listener listens. Specifically, claim 1 now recites a method including "generating an event listener to listen for monitoring announcements and notifications from other participating applications on the information bus" (claim 1, lines 10-11). Computer program product claim 14 now recites a computer program product including "program code to generate an event listener for monitoring announcements and notifications from other participating applications on the information bus" (claim 14, lines 14-15). Apparatus claim 9 now recites an apparatus including "event listening logic for monitoring announcements and notifications from other participating applications over the information bus" (claim 9, line 8-9).

Cheng merely discloses keeping a record of the activities performed by the server with an activity log. Conversely, claim 1 now recites a method including monitoring announcements and notifications from members on the information bus, not just activities in which the server participated. The claimed process is distinctly different

than that cited in Cheng. In Cheng, the sever does not monitor other announcement and notifications from data producing and data consuming members of the information bus. The Examiner can appreciate that mere logging activities are fundamentally different that actively listening for specific events generated by other members of the information bus. The Examiner has not shown where in Cheng there is a disclosure, teaching or suggestion of a mechanism for monitoring announcements and notifications from members on an information bus. In light of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1, 9, and 14, as well as their respective dependents claims, are patentable over Cheng.

Claims 4-5 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheng in view of Barnett U.S. Patent No. 6,356,948. Even if Applicants were to assume that the Examiner's statements regarding the rejection of 4 and 17 were true, the combined teachings of Cheng and Barnett still do not disclose all of the limitations of amended claims 1 and 14 from which claims 4 and 17 depend, respectively, for the reasons set forth above with respect to the traversals of the claim 1 and 14 rejections.

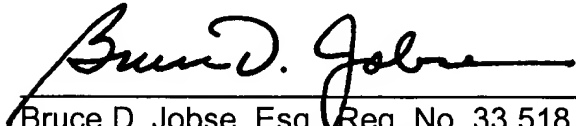
To the extent relevant, Applicant further respectfully reasserts all of the remarks and traversals set forth in the last response to the extent still relevant to the outstanding rejections.

The amendments to the claims as set forth herein, including the addition or cancellation of any claims, have been offered to advance this application to issue. None of the amendments made herein should be construed as an admission that the subject matter of the claims, as originally filed, is anticipated by or made obvious in light of any art of record whether considered singularly or in combinations. Applicant expressly reserves the right to pursue the originally filed claims in another co-pending application without being prejudiced by any amendments, including any cancellation of claims, made herein.

Applicants believe the claims are in allowable condition. A notice of allowance for this application is solicited earnestly. If the Examiner has any further questions regarding this amendment, he/she is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the number

listed below. The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any balances under 37 CFR §1.17, and 1.16 to Deposit Account No. DA-12-2158.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: 10/31/02

Bruce D. Jobse, Esq. Reg. No. 33,518

KUDIRKA & JOBSE, LLP

Customer Number 021127

Tel: (617) 367-4600 Fax: (617) 367-4656

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1. A method for allowing an application to retrieve data from participating applications sharing an information bus, comprising the steps of:
 - a. connecting the application to the information bus as an event consumer;
 - g. identifying data within the application that is needed;
 - h. notifying the information bus of the data needed from other participating applications;
 - i. receiving notice of the data needed is available by data name from another participating application;
 - j. requesting the data by name via the information bus; and
 - k. generating an event listener for monitoring announcements and notifications from other participating applications [to listen for event activity] on the information bus.

9. Apparatus for retrieving data across an information bus for use with an application, the data being retrieved from other application sharing the information bus, the apparatus comprising:
 - data notification logic to notify the information bus of the need for a desired data element;
 - data element retrieval logic to retrieve a requested data element from the information bus; and
 - event listening logic for monitoring announcements and notifications from other participating applications [to listen for bus events] over the information bus.

14. A computer program product for use within a computer system to provide an application with data retrieval capabilities from participating applications sharing an information bus, the computer program product comprising a computer usable medium

having computer readable program code embodied on the medium for enabling data to be accessed across the computer system, the medium further comprising:

- program code to connect the application to the information bus as an event consumer;

- program code to identify data within the application that is needed;

- program code to notify the information bus of the data needed from other participating applications;

- program code to receive notice of the data needed and available by data name from other participating applications;

- program code to request the data by name via the information bus; and

- program code to generate an event listener for monitoring announcements and notifications from other participating applications [to listen for event activity] on the information bus.